

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Youth Council Meeting

September 9, 2010

Present: Everett Amaral, David Banno, Vanessa Cooley, Andrew DeTora, Alberto DeBurgo, Lissa Dryer, Cynthia Farrell, Sharon Gainey, Elizabeth Gilheeney, Michael Montanaro, Lee Lewis, Lori Marchand, Kathleen Stoddart, Andrew Tyska

Absent: Deborah Anthes, Sue Babin, Alexis Devine Joseph DiPina, Victoria Gaillard-Garrick, Dorothy Mattiello, Scott Seaback, Philip Stone, Helga Ferreira

Staff: Carlos Ribeiro, Pam Blais, Diane Vendetti, Shirley Winslow, Kathy Tobin-Henry

Guests: Sherri Carello

Minutes of May 20, 2010

Chair Cynthia Farrell requested the Youth Council members review the minutes from the May 20, 2010 meeting.

VOTE: Everett Amaral motioned to accept the minutes. Alberto DeBurgo seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairs Report/ Updates

Jobs Now Program: The program served 45 youth ages 14-17 and 40 youth ages 18-24. The program ends September 30, 2010.

JDF/WIA Enrollments

Carlos Ribeiro reviewed JDF and WIA enrollments.

- **JDF contracts:** 2009 served 112% of the contracted number of participants. To date in 2010, approximately 50% of the contracted number have been served. The numbers will be increasing even though the funding has decreased by working with the vocational schools to provide work readiness skills.
- **WIA contracts:** To date, 320 youth were served. The number of participants contracted to serve will be met.

Contract Modifications

Contract modifications totaling less than \$50,000 can be completed without Board approval. Two programs have benefited: South County Community Action Agency and Family Resources that are now able to serve more youth. Historically many programs do not use all the funds requested, which leaves funds available to be utilized for other contract modifications.

2011 RFP/Renewal

Carlos Ribeiro reported that work has begun on the RFP for 2011. The prioritization of the contract renewals will be as follows: 1. Youth Centers; 2. WIA Stand Alone Programs; and 3. Other vendors RFP's.

This will ensure competition and result in one to two new WIA vendors per year.

VOTE: Vanessa Cooley motioned to accept the prioritization of contracts awards as outlined above. Lissa Dryer seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Expenditures

Carlos Ribeiro detailed that every program closes within thirty days of the end of the program. JDF money that is not spent is returned to the state.

JDF Program Year Percent Spent # of Open Contracts

2008 92% 3

2009 97% 1

2010 47% All

2010 Vocational Programs

Unspent 2009 ARRA funds were utilized for youth programs at four of the state vocational technical schools. School selection was based on dropout rates. Middle schools were to identify potential high school dropouts for participation in the program. Warwick Area Career & Technical Center offered contextualized training by incorporating classroom work into work training. Since the program was extremely successful, the intent is to design a WIA youth

program to run during the school year.

New Business

Lissa Dryer attended the Providence Youth Council. A draft policy to determine eligibility criteria for disabled participants was adopted. Carlos Ribeiro will obtain a copy of the policy to ensure consistent standards and uniformity for both WIB's. The policy will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

The next meeting of the Youth Council is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2010, at 8:30 a.m.